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HELSTON

COUNCIL

BOROUGH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

G.D.K. NEEDHAM, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

for the twelve months ending

DECEMBER 31st. 1952.

HELSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31st. 1952.

To the Mayor, Alderman & Councillors of the Borough of Helston.

I have the honour to present the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Helston for the year 1952, on behalf of Dr. G.W. Knight who was Medical Officer of Health until October of that year.

As I have pointed out in the report, there are two major points of interest in infectious disease during the year; one was the total absence of Measles as a disease, the other was the return of Scarlet Fever as an epidemic disease, after it had lain low since the beginning of the 1939-45 War.

The Vital Statistics show a state of affairs of great interest, the birth rate being the highest for many years and the death rate the lowest. They compare very favourable indeed with the figures for the rest of England & Wales. If this trend continues, the population of the Borough is going to increase steadily, and I foresee serious shortage of housing in the future, particularly for old people who, either living alone, or in couples, will be unable to pay the rent, or maintain satisfactorily, the standard type of traditional house. There is no doubt that some form of easily maintained, low rent house is going to be required in a district where longevity appears to be the rule rather than the exception.

I am indebted to the Chief Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Whitby, for his report and for his help in taking me round the Borough and introducing its problems to me.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

G.D.K. NEEDHAM,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

1. Statistics.

Area	4014 acres
Estimated mid-year population	5706
Average number of persons per acre	1.42
Number of inhabited houses	1879
Average number of inhabited houses per acre47
Average number of persons per house	3.04
Rateable Value (at 31.12.52)	£27,173
Product of a penny rate	£107.10.0d

2. Live Births.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate ...	71	58	129
Illegitimate ...	2	2	4
<u>TOTALS</u> ...	<u>73</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>133</u>

1952 Crude Birth Rate ... 23.3 per 1,000 estimated population as compared with the 1951 rate of 15.1

3. Still Births.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate ...	-	3	3
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-
<u>TOTALS</u> ...	<u>Nil</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

4. Mortality.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Total number of deaths ...	30	42	72

1952 Crude Death Rate ... 12.6 per 1,000 estimated population as compared with the 1951 rate of 17.31

5. Maternal Mortality.

Deaths attributable to pregnancy ... Nil.

6. Neo-Natal Mortality. (Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate ...	1	2	3
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-
<u>TOTALS</u> ...	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

1952 Crude Death Rate ... 22.5 per 1,000 Live Births as compared with 25.53 in 1951.

7. Infant Mortality. (Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Legitimate ...	2	3	5
Illegitimate ...	-	-	-
<u>TOTALS</u> ...	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

The 1952 death rate of infants under 1 year of age was 37.6 per 1,000 live births as compared with 25.53 for 1951.

8. Prematurity.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Domiciliary....	2	4	6
Hospital.....	3	1	4
Nursing Homes..	1	-	1
<u>TOTALS</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>11</u>

Comparability.

Total Births..... 133
 Premature Births..... 11
 Incidence of Prematurity..... 8.27

9. Deaths from All Causes in 1952.

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	1
Tuberculosis, other forms	-	-	-
Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-	-
Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	-	-	-
Other infective & parasitic diseases	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	3	4
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	-	-
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	2	4	6
Leukemia, aleukemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	-	-	-
Vascular lesions of nervous systems	5	11	16
Coronary disease, angina	4	1	5
Hypertension with heart disease	1	1	2
Other heart disease	8	14	22
Other circulatory disease	1	-	1
Influenza	-	-	-
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	1	1	2
Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
Ulcer of stomach & duodenum	-	-	-
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	1	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	-	-	-
Hypertrophia of prostate	-	-	-
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	-	-	-
Congenital malformations	1	-	1
Other defined & ill-defined diseases	2	4	6
Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
All other accidents	1	-	1
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-
	30	42	72

10. Compare Live Birth & Death Rates in the Year 1952.
(Provisional Figures based on Quarterly Returns).

	Helston (Using comparability factors Births 1.07 Deaths 0.74)	England & Wales	126 County Boroughs & Great Towns (including London)	148 Smaller Towns (Resident Population 25,000 - 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Administrative County
<u>Births</u>	(Rates per 1,000 Home Population)				
Live Births	24.94	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6
Still Births	.39	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34
<u>Deaths</u>					
All Causes	9.3	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6
Typhoid & Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Whooping Cough	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis	0.53	0.04	0.28	0.22	0.31
Influenza	0.00	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05
Smallpox	0.00	0.00			
Acute Poliomyelitis & Polioencephalitis	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.01
Pneumonia	0.00	0.47	0.52	0.43	0.58
<u>Deaths</u>	(Rates per 1,000 Live Births)				
All causes under 1 year of age	37.6	27.6	31.2	25.8	23.8
Enteritis & diarrhoea under 2 years of age	0.00	1.1	1.3	0.5	0.7

COMMENT.

The population of the Borough increased during the year by an estimated 105, making a total gain for the past two years of 500; almost certainly due to the development of the Royal Naval Air Station married quarters.

The Birth Rate of nearly 25 for each 1,000 of the population is very high indeed, when compared with the National Rate of 15.3 per 1,000 and the 1951 rate of just over 16 per 1,000. The actual number of births has risen from 85 in 1951 to 133 in 1952. Unfortunately three of the babies were stillborn. This increase in births has put a much greater load on the local midwives, as no fewer than 79 babies were born at home, which was practically equivalent to the total number born in the Borough last year at home and in Hospital. Of the 133 births this year 47 took place in Hospital and 7 in Nursing Homes.

Comparative Figures relating to Births for the last three years are:-

Year	Total Births	Born at Home	Percentage Rate	Born in Hospital	Percentage Rate	Born in Nursing Homes	Percentage Rate
1950	67	43	46%	17	26%	7	10%
1951	85	53	62%	27	32%	5	6%
1952	133	79	59%	47	35.5%	7	5.5%

Neo-Natal Deaths.

Three children died before reaching the age of four weeks. Two of these were premature babies, the other died of pneumonia.

Infant Deaths.

Two children died before reaching the age of 1 year, in addition to those three reaching four weeks of age. One had a severe congenital defect which was bound to cause death if untreated and, in fact, the child died from shock after an operation designed to save it's life. The other child died of pneumonia.

We can be pleased that the total number of infant deaths (eight) was not greater than in 1951 although there were many more infants in the Borough. Nevertheless, the fact that two infants died of pneumonia shows that the battle is not yet won.

The Death Rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of population is extremely low compared with the National Rate of 11.3 per 1,000, and with the 1951 year's rate of 12.81 per 1,000. While not wishing to damp enthusiasm, I must point out that this rate is very much affected by the presence in the Borough of the Culdrose Air Station; the death rate must always be low when you have an unusually large proportion of the population consisting of healthy young adults.

Nevertheless, there were only 72 deaths in the Borough during the year compared with 97 in 1952. Diseases of the Heart and Arteries were the cause of 46 of the deaths, whilst cancer accounted for 12 other deaths.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

1. Maternity and Ante-Natal and Child Welfare.

During the year the County Council has commenced an Ante-Natal Clinic at Moncage House Hospital, which is held for educational purposes only, for expectant mothers. The Clinic is held fortnightly and is staffed by a Health Visitor and District Nurse/Midwife - the prime motive being it's potential value as a centre for group education. Although this Clinic has not long commenced the average attendance of ten per session is gratifying and it is hoped that as it's usefulness becomes better known the attendances will increase.

Apart from this innovation there were no alterations to the services provided by the Council during the year.

Domiciliary midwifery and maternity services in the Borough are undertaken by two District Nurse/Midwives who work under the direct supervision of the patient's own doctor, and is also supervised by the Assistant County Nursing Officer for the Health Area. These Nurses are trained in the use of Gas/Air analgesia and each has an efficient apparatus at their disposal.

The Midwife remains in attendance for 28 days following birth after which the care of the infant is supervised by a trained Health Visitor. One of the midwives of the Borough acts in the dual capacity of Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitor which means that she continues to supervise her own cases until the child reaches school age when the child comes under the School Medical Officer.

The following table indicates the scope of work carried out by these District Nurses/Midwives/Health Visitors in the Borough during the year:-

Domiciliary Confinements	82
School Medical Inspections	40
School Cleanliness Inspections	60
General Nursing Visits	1,889
Midwifery/Maternity/Ante-Natal Visits	963
Casual Health Visits	3,174
School Follow-Up Visits	68
Tuberculosis Domiciliary Visits	27
Visits to the Aged and Infirm	181
Infant Welfare Clinic Sessions held	51
Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic Sessions	4

In addition to the domiciliary visits made by the Health Visitors, a child Welfare Clinic is held each week at Moncage House Hospital. The Health Visitor and a District Nurse is in attendance, and the Assistant School Medical Officer attends regularly each week. Vaccination and Diphtheria Immunisation sessions are frequently held in conjunction with the Clinics, and the County Dental Officer attends at these premises each week for the purpose of treating school children, Nursing and expectant mothers and children of pre-school age that are referred for treatment.

The following table shows attendances at the Holston Child Welfare Clinic during the year 1952 with comparative figures for the three previous years:-

	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>	<u>1949</u>
Number of sessions held	51	49	51	46
Total number of children attended	207	146	127	111
<u>Attendances made (New Cases)</u>				
Under 1 yr. attending for first time	145	86	57	66
Over 1 yr. attending for first time	16	29	23	40
<u>Attendances made (Old Cases)</u>				
Children under the age of 1 year	1177	218	244	317
Children over the age of 1 year	213	541	431	79
Total attendances during the year	1551	874	755	502
Average attendance per session	30	17	15	11
Highest attendance at one session	58	28	26	22

2. Diphtheria Immunisation.

Immunisation sessions are periodically carried out in the various schools, by the Assistant School Medical Officer, or where desired may be carried out by the family doctor. Record cards are sent to and retained at the Health Area Office and at the expiry of each succeeding five years refresher or boosting injections are again given. The undermentioned figures show the immunisations carried out in respect of children resident in the Borough during the year.

Age Group	Primary Immunisations	Refresher Immunisations	Total
1 to 4	70	1	71
5 to 14	4	110	114
Total for the year	74	111	185

The estimated child population of the Borough under the age of 14 years resident in the Borough at 31st. December, 1952, was 1,234. Record cards at my office show that of this number 854 children have at some time completed a course of immunisation, although it is probable that many more have been immunised at some time prior to the inception of the National Health Act in July, 1948, and for whom no record cards are held.

This gives a percentage of immunised children of 69.2%.

3. Smallpox Vaccination.

Parents are urged by the Health Visitors to have their children vaccinated but many show apathy towards this, however, during the year the following have been vaccinated:-

Age Group	Primary Vaccination	Refresher Vaccination	Total
1 to 4	52	-	52
5 to 14	1	-	1
15 onwards	3	3	6
Total for the year	56	3	59

4. Home Help Service.

This service is combined for administration purposes with the Kerrier Rural District and is conducted by the W.V.S. Organiser who operates from the Kerrier Rural District Council Offices. The demands for Home Helps in the Borough is not extensive, and at no time during the year was it necessary to refuse any applications nor to increase the original establishment. Included in the following table is a brief description of cases assisted during the year. As the Home Helps are occasionally employed part time to householders in the Borough and Kerrier respectively during the same weeks, it is difficult to separate the details so that the table includes the combined districts.

No. of maternity cases supplied with domestic assistance 15
No. of hours Helps were employed in respect of above 1,996

No. of cases assisted owing to Illness in the home 10
No. of hours Helps were employed in respect of above 1,438

No. of cases assisted owing to Old Age and Infirmary 11
No. of hours Helps were employed in respect of above 3,072

5. Hospital Services.

Apart from the Holston and District War Memorial Hospital which caters for the acute sick and Monage House Hospital which cares for the chronic sick, the Hospital Services are provided outside the Borough, namely, Camborne-Redruth, Penzance, Falmouth and Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro. Infectious cases requiring hospital treatment are conveyed to the Isolation Hospital, Truro. Persons suffering from tuberculosis and requiring hospital care are admitted to the Tehidy Hospital via the Chest Physician. Bacteriological and Pathological examinations are made by Dr. Hocking at the Public Health Laboratory, Truro.

6. Ambulance & Hospital Car Service.

No change in the arrangements for conveyance of sick and infirm persons to or from Hospitals or Clinics has been made during the year. The County Ambulance Service administered from the Health Area Office, Redruth, operates during the day period, and from County Headquarters during the night period and weekends, who refer the calls to the local St. John Division, and reimbursement at agreed rates are made by the County Council. Sitting cases are conveyed by the Utilicon Ambulances, or where more appropriate, arrangements are made by the Transport Officer for conveyance by private cars with car owners who contract to do this service at agreed rates.

In the following table is a summary of the work carried out by the Helston St. John Ambulance during the year, in addition to other removals carried out by the County Ambulance Service. Comparison is made with the previous two years:-

Month	1 9 5 2		1 9 5 1		1 9 5 0	
	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered	Patients Conveyed	Miles Covered
January	14	390	21	605	9	323
February	24	700	17	379	9	255
March	19	451	10	443	28	898
April	20	480	18	583	14	379
May	33	941	22	510	21	498
June	18	570	27	728	19	481
July	19	540	22	552	22	599
August	27	731	34	923	13	508
September	25	625	29	937	30	1025
October	16	437	23	552	17	509
November	16	413	17	522	20	599
December	22	421	23	705	24	516
T O T A L S	253	6699	263	7439	226	6590

Wireless Control of Ambulances.

During the latter part of the year the ambulances of Health Area 11 were equipped with two-way wireless communication with the Redruth Control. By this means ambulances can be diverted to emergency calls whenever needed, without their having to return to base before receiving messages.

7. Dental Services.

These are provided by the County Council under the direction of a Chief Dental Officer. Each school is periodically visited, and when treatment is required arrangements are made for attendance at Menage House Hospital where dental clinic sessions are held weekly. Treatment is also provided at the Clinic for pre-school children and Nursing & Expectant mothers when referred by the appropriate Medical Officer.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. Notifications of Infectious Diseases notified during the year 1952 with comparative figures for the three preceding years.

	1952	1951	1950	1949
Typhoid Fever	-	-	-	-
Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-	-
Meningococcal Infection	1	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	27	1	2	-
Whooping Cough	6	15	5	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	-	-	-	1
Smallpox	-	-	-	-
Measles	-	98	58	31
Pneumonia	3	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis))				
Paralytic)	-	-	1	-
Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-

Comparative Infectious Disease Rates per 1,000 of Population.

Notifications (Corrected)	Holston Borough	England & Wales	160 County Boroughs & Great Towns including London	160 Smaller Towns (Res- ident Pop- ulation 25,000 - 50,000 at 1951 Census	London Admin- istra- tive County
Typhoid Fever	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever	0.00	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.01
Meningococcal Infection	0.17	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.02
Scarlet Fever	4.73	1.53	1.75	1.58	1.56
Whooping Cough	1.06	2.16	2.74	2.57	1.66
Diphtheria	0.00	0.01	0.01	0.03	0.01
Erysipelas	0.00	0.14	0.15	0.12	0.14
Smallpox	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-
Measles	0.00	8.86	10.11	8.49	9.53
Pneumonia	0.51	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)					
Paralytic	0.00	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.06
Non-Paralytic	0.00	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.13	0.16	0.11	0.18
Puerperal Pyrexia	0.17	17.87	23.94	10.22	30.77

C O M M E N T.

2. Measles.

The most remarkable event of 1952, epidemiologically speaking, was the absence of any notification of Measles. It seems that the epidemics of the last two years must have included almost every child in the Borough. It is not to be expected however, that this happy state of affairs will continue, and 1953 will probably show a return to the pre-war pattern of a measles epidemic every other year.

3. Scarlet Fever.

On the other hand Scarlet Fever once again appeared as an epidemic disease after being almost absent since the war. Fortunately it took a very mild form and no deaths resulted. It may well be, however, that this mildness of the disease was concealing a larger number of cases than were actually recognised, as many children were not sufficiently ill for the mothers to call in the family doctor.

4. Whooping Cough.

While it is true that only six cases were notified during the year and no deaths occurred, this disease can still be a menace to the younger child, especially to those under the age of 12 months - for it is during this period that Whooping Cough may lead to broncho-pneumonia and death. Recent investigations have also led some doctors to believe that Whooping Cough in infancy may lead to the severe lung condition of bronchiectasis in later life.

It is with some pleasure, therefore, that we shall be able to offer in the year 1953 immunisation against Whooping Cough at the same time as that given against Diphtheria. The two protective vaccines are given at the same injection and to get full protection three injections at monthly intervals are needed. It is most important to realize that immunisation should begin when the child has reached the age of six months, for it is during the first year of life of the child that the risk of death or serious disease from Whooping Cough is greatest.

5. Diphtheria.

Once again it is pleasant to record a total absence of diphtheria from the Borough during the year, a fact which is largely due to the immunisation offered by the Infant Welfare Clinics and by Private Practitioners. Nevertheless, the very success of the immunisation leads to a lesser desire on the part of parents to have their children immunised, at some inconvenience to themselves, against a disease which most of them have almost forgotten exists, "Out of sight, out of mind" is only too true.

Only constant pressure by the doctors, health visitors and Nurses enables a reasonable level of immunisation in the child population to be kept up.

6. Tuberculosis.

At the end of the year the number of cases of tuberculosis on the notification register was 25, (18 cases of pulmonary affection and 7 cases of non-pulmonary). This total being exactly the same as the end of 1951. Of this number 3 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year as new cases, each being the wife of naval service personnel from Culdrose Air Station and all three have since been transferred out on account of removal from the area. Three cases were transferred to the register from other areas, and one death from pulmonary tuberculosis was reported of a man aged 45 years.

Particulars of these cases remaining on the Register at the end of the year were:-

	Pulmonary Cases	Non-Pulmonary Cases	TOTALS
Males	8	3	11
Females	10	4	14

Age Distribution of New Cases notified during the year & Mortality.

Age	Notifications				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
20 - 25 yrs.	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
26 - 30 yrs.	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 50 yrs.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
T O T A L S	-	3	-	-	1	-	-	-

On notification being received from the patient's Doctor or the Chest Physician that a person is suffering from tuberculosis, the household is visited by a Health Visitor trained for this work. Advice is offered as to means of preventing the spread of infection, and contacts are requested to attend at the appropriate Clinic for examination. When contacts are found to be mantoux positive they are referred for X-ray examination and if necessary followed up by regular attendance at the Clinic.

When contacts are found to be mantoux negative (or "susceptible") to primary infection B.C.G. (Bacille-Calmette - Guérin Vaccine) is offered, these injections gives the contacts a resistance to infection, and these contacts are requested to attend the Clinic annually to ensure that resistance is maintained. Financial problems and domestic difficulties are often encountered in households of persons suffering from tuberculosis and the Health Visitor is able to recommend means to alleviate the circumstances.

The financial responsibility for assisting persons suffering loss of income or earnings rests with the National Assistance Board, and when pulmonary tuberculosis is evident an additional grant above the normal scale is made for extra nourishment requirements. In other cases where the income is found to be less than the scale approved by the County Council and extra nourishment is recommended by the Ghost Physician, or the need is proved for necessities other than food, the County Council makes such grants.

Of the 16 cases of pulmonary cases on the register, all except two have been fully investigated. Those two cases are persons living alone and in regular employment. All contacts found tuberculin negative have received B.C.G. vaccination, but in one case the patient is found to be quite unco-operative and requests that the Health Visitors do not call, and refuses advice.

SECTION D.

Action under National Assistance Act, Section 47.

No action was taken under this section in the Borough during the year.

SECTION E.

I am indebted to your Sanitary Inspector Mr. Whitby for the following information.

At the outset may I say how grateful I am for the loyal assistance and encouragement given by members of the staff.

1. Water Supply.

The majority of the premises within the Borough are fed by piped supply from the Holston and Porthleven Water Company. Only the isolated farms and cottages being dependant upon springs and wells. Bacteriological reports on the main supply, were satisfactory. In the case of one unsatisfactory private supply, this was used for a camping site, and the owner has since installed patent filter and chlorinating plant.

The Water Company obtains water from three main sources, one an impounding reservoir of some three million gallons at Tregathenan fed by springs, this is chlorinated and gravity fed to Holston and Porthleven. The second source is from a mine adit at Trolisk, this supply is filtered and chlorinated before being pumped to Tregathenan. This is used in times of drought to augment the first supply. The third is obtained from the River Cober at Wendron, from where it is pumped to settlement tanks at Three Cross, the water is clarified by the addition of lime and alum; from the settlement tanks the water is passed through high pressure filters, chlorinated and stored in underground reservoirs. This plant is of modern construction.

The supply has been satisfactory in quantity and quality.

The reports on samples taken in 1952 are as follows:-

1 Public sample taken	Satisfactory
1 Private sample taken	Unsatisfactory (Since proved Satisfactory - See above).

2. Sewerage.

The built up areas of Holston and Porthleven are sewered for foul and surface water.

The higher parts of Holston discharge directly to the sewage works by gravity, and the lower parts by gravity to a collecting sump in the market from whence it is pumped to the disposal works by two automatically operated electric motored pumps and two hand started electric motored pumps. The work of enlarging the disposal works has been completed this year. The plant consists of balancing tank detritus tanks with storm weir overflow, two large "Dortmund Type" settlement tanks and five filters of the rotary distributing arm type, two "Dortmund Type" humus tanks, large areas of drying beds and sludge digestion tanks. The effluent from the drying beds and digestion tanks is collected in a sump and recirculated into the balancing tank.

The disposal plant is working very well and all samples of the effluent have been very satisfactory.

The sludge digestion tanks have proved invaluable this year, previously the drying beds were incapable of coping with the sludge during the very wet winter months, but this year we have experienced no similar troubles.

Porthleven system is a combined foul and surface water system of gravity sewers, with several out falls direct to the sea.

The Council has extended its sewers to cater for two private housing estates.

3. Inspections.

The following inspections were carried out during the year:-

Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects	136
Number of inspections made	388
Number of dwelling houses found to be in a condition so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	21
Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	27

Remedy of defects during the year without service of final notices.

Number of defective dwellings rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or their Officers.	4
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Action under Statutory Powers during the year. (Proceeding under Sections 9, 10 & 16 of the Housing Act 1936).

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs. Nil
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:-
 - (a) by Owners Nil
 - (b) by Local Authority in defiance of Owner Nil

4. Overcrowding.

During the year 16 cases of overcrowding were abated by re-housing on the Council's new housing estates or by other means.

5. New Housing.

(a) General - During the year the Council has maintained the high rate of building compared with the rest of the country, and private building is increasing in tempo. There still remains a very heavy list of applicants requiring satisfactory housing accommodation.

(b) Present Position - At the end of the year the Council's Post-War Housing Programme was as follows:-

<u>Traditional Houses</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Under Construction</u>
Beacon Parc, Holston	104	14
Boslan Estate, Porthleven	70	7
<u>Permanent Prefabricated Cornish Units</u>		
Beacon Parc, Holston	10	-
Boslan Estate, Porthleven	10	-
<u>Temporary Dwellings</u>		
Sanctuary Lane, Holston	5	-
Unity Road, Porthleven	5	-
<u>Private Enterprise Housing</u>	28	10

6. Housing Conditions.

It is becoming more obvious daily, that the Country will be faced with a much bigger housing problem, if the pre war houses are allowed to fall into disrepair and decay at the present rate due to the uneconomic relationship between cost of maintenance and rent income.

Whilst the Housing Act 1949 may be a means of improving the standard of amenity in a house with an increase in rent income, this Act does not help an owner in the arrest of disrepair.



Housing Conditions (contd.)

The average rental in this district for the cottage type house is about 5/- per week, and many are let as low as 2/6d. Unless the rents are permitted to be increased for satisfactory repairs, similar to the increase permitted for improvements, the solution seems to be without an answer, except for Local Authorities to continue building and rehousing with the ever increasing burden on the rates for subsidy and demolition of the worn out houses.

7. Public Health.

Inspection of premises under Housing Act	136
Inspection of premises under Public Health Act	205
Inspection of Factories	29
Inspection of premises for rats and mice	146

Nuisances abated and defects remedied.

Dangerous buildings demolished	4
Dangerous buildings repaired	1
Guttering and down pipes repaired	8
Roof repaired	4
Drains cleared	14
Premises provided with proper drainage	3
Closets provided with flushing cisterns	4
Premises where drains repaired	15
Premises provided with new W.C. pans	5
Premises connected to the sewer	3
Filthy premises cleansed	3
Vermineous premises disinfected	23

Supervision of Food & Food Premises.

Inspections of Bakchouses	21
Dutchers Shops	15
Cafe's & Restaurants	24
Confectioners Shops	4
Dairies and Milk Shops	41
Fishmonger premises	13
Fried Fish Shops	8
Ice-Cream Dealers & Manufacturers	46
Other Food Premises	29
Other Food Shops	76
Slaughterhouse for meat inspection	344
Visits in connection with unsound food	67

Number of samples taken for bacteriological examination:-

Ice Cream	17
Milk	11
Water	2

The following is a summary of Ice-Cream samples:-

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Hot Mix</u>	<u>Cold Mix</u>
1	12	-
2	1	-
3	4	-
4	-	-

There is now only one manufacturer within the Borough, who has maintained a keen interest and good results.

Camping Sites - There are four camping sites, three used throughout the year to accommodate Royal Naval Personnel. These are under constant supervision and are kept very satisfactorily.



Milk Sampling - A summary of the milk samples is given below:-

Ordinary

3 samples taken unsatisfactory
1 sample taken satisfactory

Pastourised

6 samples taken unsatisfactory
1 sample taken satisfactory

In 1951 the retailers agreed to retail milk in bottles and not to use open cans. Now that the system has been in operation for a year, it is safe to say that both public and retailers are quite satisfied with this revolutionary method of milk delivery.

The samples of pastourised milk failing to comply with the regulations were traced to a defect in the plant which has since been rectified.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Meat Inspection - Slaughtering is carried out at one slaughterhouse under the direction of the Ministry of Food. This slaughterhouse supplied the Borough and quite a large area of the adjoining rural district.

During the year 344 visits were made for meat inspection purposes, and it will be appreciated that much time is spent on meat inspection.

This year there has been a marked reduction in that class of casualty known colloquially as "screw cattle" with a reduction in the number condemned for generalised tuberculosis.

There has been a greater number of pigs killed, as a result of swine fever. Carcasses inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number killed	887	453	1002	1725	395
Whole Carcasses condemned	14	11	13	11	23
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	133	125	25	69	36
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis	16.6%	30%	3.8%	4.6%	15%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole Carcasses condemned	30	38	1	-	21
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	104	123	2	-	24
Percentage of the number inspected	15.1%	35.5%	1.2%	-	11.4%

Other Food - 67 visits were made in connection with unsound food, other than fresh meat:-

Luncheon Meat	31 tins	Pilchards	5 tins
Pears	13 "	Spaghetti	23 "
Plums	45 "	Lambs tongue	5 "
Strawberries	4 "	Apricots	1 tin
Peaches	6 "	Tongue	1 "
Pineapples	2 "	Chicken Soup	21 tins
Tomatoes	3 "	Beans	11 "
Ham	19 "	Jar Sweet Pickle	1
Pork	13 "	Boxes Cheese	8
Stewed Steak	54 "	Grapes	1 tin
Sardines	1 tin	Salmon	1 "
Prunes	49 tins	Baby Soup	8 tins
Spin	1 tin	Cod	1 tin

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Refuse Collection

Domestic Refuse is collected weekly from all premises by direct labour, trade refuse is collected twice weekly and a charge of 6d is made for bins. Disposal is by means of controlled tipping at Gayo's Hill and Treze Valley.

Salvage

Despite the heavy reduction in prices, waste paper is still salvaged. Gross sales for 1952 were £582.11s.0d.

Pest Act 1949

Surveys and systematic treatment was made during the year. the Council's sewers, sewage works and tips were regularly treated.

No. of premises inspected	146
No. of premises found infested & treated	72
No. of poison baits taken	516
No. of bodies recovered	764

8. Factories Act, 1937.

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	36	29	3	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	46	4	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	6	4	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	88	37	3	Nil

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	No. of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prose- cutions were instit- uted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspect -or	By H.M. Inspect -or	
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	2	2	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	1	1	-	-	-
(a) insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	3	3	-	-	-

Part Viii of the Act - Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of Out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Making etc. Apparel (Cleaning & Washing)	1					
Household Linen	Nil					
Lace, lace curtains and nets	Nil					
Curtains & furniture hangings	Nil					
Furniture & upholstery	1					
Electro-plate	Nil					
Filo making	Nil					
Brass & brass articles	Nil					
Fur pulling	Nil					
Iron & steel cables & chains	Nil					
Iron & steel anchors & snapnuts	Nil					
Cart gear	Nil					
Locks, latches & keys	Nil					
Umbrellas etc.	Nil					
Artificial flowers	Nil					
Nets, other than wire nets	362	4				
Tents	Nil					
Sacks	Nil					
Racquet & tennis balls	Nil					
Paper bags	Nil					
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper	Nil					
Brush making	Nil					
Poa picking	Nil					
Feather sorting	Nil					
Carding etc. of buttons etc.	Nil					
Stuffed toys	Nil					
Basket making	Nil					
Chocolates & sweetmeats	Nil					
Cosques, Christmas crackers, Christmas stockings etc.	Nil					
Textile weaving	Nil					
Lampshades	1					
TOTAL	365	4				

